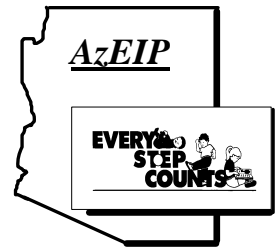




Janet Napolitano  
Governor  
State of Arizona

# ARIZONA EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS

*Arizona Department of Economic Security*



Tracy Wareing  
Director  
Department of Economic Security

Molly K. Dries  
Executive Director  
Arizona Early Intervention  
Program (AzEIP)

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** The Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP) Community

**From:** Molly K. Dries, M.S.  
Executive Director

**Date:** July 20, 2006

**Subject:** AzEIP Redesign Service Specifications for Final Public Input

The Department of Economic Security is pleased to announce the final draft of the [Arizona Early Intervention Program \(AzEIP\) system redesign service specifications](#), the proposed rates associated with the early intervention services and the methodology used in determining the rates. These materials are being presented for final public review and comment prior to their incorporation into and release as part of a formal procurement this fall and implementation by spring 2007.

The service specifications were originally released for public input in March 2005. Based on public input and continued refinement of the team-based model, changes have been made throughout the newly proposed service specifications. For this reason, AzEIP encourages all community members, including families, providers, and state staff, to review the service specifications thoroughly and comment on all aspects of the document, including content, clarity, format, etc. In the interest of facilitating public engagement in the review process, AzEIP offers a description of the following significant changes to the service specifications from those that were originally proposed. Again, keep in mind that

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this list is not exhaustive.

- The purpose of the qualified vendor agreement was added to clarify the scope of the agreement, which includes the initial planning process, development and implementation of initial and subsequent Individualized Family Service Plans and facilitation of transition.
- The composition of the core team was clarified to include equal representation of the following disciplines: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and developmental special instruction.
- Guidelines for expanding the team were included.
- Service coordinators are part of the team, but not subject to the same parameters of equal representation.
- The team must have access to psychology and social work services.
- The structure was changed to clarify service goals and objectives, and requirements (i.e., capacity, personnel, etc.). The Service Utilization Guidelines section was removed, and the Service Goals and Objectives section was consolidated and integrated in greater detail into the AzEIP Team-Based Early Intervention Service policies and procedures, which were published for public comment February –April 2006. The DRAFT policies and procedures are available, as issued for public comment, at [www.azdes.gov/AzEIP/redesign.asp](http://www.azdes.gov/AzEIP/redesign.asp). Policies and procedures will be finalized and published prior to the formal procurement this fall.

You are invited to attend one of two public meetings that have been scheduled to present the proposed service specifications, proposed rates and rate methodology, and to provide opportunity for comment.

**Flagstaff**      August 7, 2006 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm  
Northern Arizona University  
du Bois Center Ballroom  
S. San Francisco Street  
Flagstaff, AZ

**Phoenix**      August 8, 2006 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm  
Estrella Vista Reception Center  
1471 N. Elisio Felix Jr. Way  
Avondale, AZ

These public meetings will follow M’Lisa Shelden and Dathan Rush presenting “Planning to Implement an Evidence-Based Practice Model in Early Intervention,” scheduled in each location from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you are interested in attending either of the Shelden and Rush presentations, registration information is available at <http://www.azdes.gov/azeip/pdf/flyer8-06.pdf>.

Oral and written comments will be accepted at the public meetings. Written comments may also be emailed to [AzeipRedesign@azdes.gov](mailto:AzeipRedesign@azdes.gov) by 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 11, 2006. Additional information about the redesign can be found at the DDD website, [www.azdes.gov/DDD](http://www.azdes.gov/DDD).